

REMARKS

Claims 25-46 are all the claims currently pending. Claims 1-24 are cancelled without prejudice and without disclaimer. Claims 25-52 are newly added. No claims are amended, and no new subject matter is added. In view of the foregoing amendments and following comments, reconsideration and allowance of all the claims is anticipated.

Information Disclosure Statement (I.D.S.)

The Examiner alleges that the I.D.S. filed 02/25/04 fails to comply with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3) because it does not include a concise explanation of the relevance, as it is presently understood by the individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) most knowledgeable about the content of the information, of each patent listed. The Examiner states that Applicants have included forty references in the I.D.S., and that if all of the references are to be considered Applicants must comply with 37 CFR 1.98.

Applicants are not required to comply with the Examiners request. Thirty seven CFR 1.98(a)(3) applies only to references that are submitted in a language other than English. Since all of the references submitted with the I.D.S. in question, as well as I.D.S.'s subsequently filed, were submitted in English, the Examiner's objection is improper. Therefore, the references should be considered, and the Examiner should return an initialed and signed copy of the PTO-1449 form in the next Office Action

Double Patenting

Claims 1-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as claiming the same invention as that of claims 1-24 of U.S. Patent No. 6,239,348.

The rejection of claims 1-24 is moot in light of the cancellation of claims 1-24.

Newly Added Claims

Claims 25-46 are newly added by this amendment and are drawn to subject matter included in the specification and drawings as originally filed, but not previously presented in the claims. The newly added claims are believed to be allowable over the prior art.

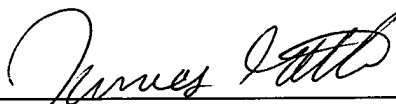
Having addressed each of the foregoing rejections, it is respectfully submitted that a full and complete response has been made to the Office Action and, as such, the application is in condition for allowance. Notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Dated:

Respectfully submitted,

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